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James Raney

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listed in company H, 15th Iowa Infantry. Not long after his muster into the service he was detailed as one of the color guard. He succeeded the color bearer who was shot down at the battle of Missionary Ridge, where his whole regiment was captured. With his comrades he was marched to Andersonville prison, where he suffered untold tortures from starvation, vermin, scurvy, and filth. After his liberation he was discharged, having been in the army four years and seven months. He served his county two terms as auditor, and was deputy state treasurer of Iowa for three terms, also holding many other positions of honor and trust, in all of which he proved himself competent and thoroughly trustworthy. His funeral took place at Farmington, Iowa, Sept. 8. His remains were borne to the cemetery by the members of the G. A. R., who buried him with the honors of the order.

JOHN WILLIAMSON was born at Penrith, England, Dec. 25, 1822; he died at Fairfield, Iowa, July 24, 1902. He learned the trade of a weaver in the old country, and migrated to America in 1851. He and his wife worked in the cotton mills of New England the first four years after their arrival in the United States. In 1855 they came to Iowa, settling near the city of Fairfield. Mr. Williamson was an eloquent speaker, and became prominent and influential in the politics of that region. He served in the 19th General Assembly as a member of the house, and for a number of years was a member of the board of supervisors of his county. He is spoken of as a "warm-hearted, impulsive man, generous and honest." He enjoyed the high esteem of a wide circle of friends in Jefferson and adjoining counties.

BENJAMIN GREENE was born in Otsego county, N. Y., March 4, 1819; he died in Adel, Iowa, June 18, 1902. At the age of 18 Mr. Greene went to Belvidere, Ill., and spent four years with a brother. He returned to New York, studied law and taught school until 1846. Early in 1849 he arrived in Adel, having stopped for a time at Keokuk where he taught school. He was among the first settlers of Dallas county, and has been identified with its development and progress. He was a man of marked business ability and integrity and had filled various local offices in town and county. In early days he was school fund commissioner, and for several years was chairman of the board of supervisors. He was a member of the house of representatives in the 4th and 6th general assemblies.

FRANK TALCOTT PIPER was born in Maquoketa, Jackson county, Iowa, July 19, 1856; he died in Los Angeles, Cal., April 20, 1902. When a child his parents removed to Green Springs, Ohio, but in 1868 the family returned to Iowa, locating in Buena Vista county. In 1870 he began newspaper work and was successively employed on *The Newell Times*, *Le Mars Sentinel* and *Cherokee Times* and *Leader*. In 1873 he located at Sheldon where he afterward published *The Mail and Times*. Mr. Piper was postmaster of Sheldon during President Harrison's administration. In 1895 he became a candidate for senator in the 49th district, but was defeated. He was mayor of Sheldon from 1898 to 1900.

JAMES RANEY, aged 83 years, died at his home in Belle Plaine, Iowa, Aug. 19, 1902. During the civil war he was colonel of the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, and was brevetted brigadier-general at the time of his muster-out. For some years after he came to Iowa he resided in Adair county, where he served as county clerk eight or ten years, besides filling several other official stations. From that time forward he was engaged in merchandising in Belle Plaine up to the time of his death.

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